

**EXPRESS TERMS**  
Title 13, Division 1, Chapter 1  
Article 3.3 – Special Plates

**YEAR OF MANUFACTURE PROGRAM**

**§205.00. Definitions.**

- (a) YOM – Year of Manufacture
- (b) Base year license plate – The year the license plate colors were originally issued. Base year license plates were issued to vehicles with model years of 1942 and prior, 1947, 1956 and 1963.
- (c) Tab – Indicator of the year registration expired. May be metal and was affixed to the license plate at the mounting hole. (For a YOM plate, the tab shall correspond to the year model of the vehicle.)
- (d) Sticker – Indicator of the year registration expired. Usually stuck onto the license plate by an adhesive material. (For a YOM plate, the sticker year shall correspond to the year model of the vehicle.)
- (e) Current License Plates – License plates on the vehicle at the time of application for YOM license plates.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.02. Application Requirements for Year of Manufacture License Plates.**

- (a) An application for Year of Manufacture license plates shall be submitted to the department on a Year of Manufacture (YOM) License Plate Application, Form REG 352 (Rev. 2/2009), which is hereby incorporated by reference, and shall include the following:
  - (1) An indication of whether the application is for original issuance, reassignment, retention or release of interest.
  - (2) The YOM license plate number being requested for application purposes.
  - (3) The applicant's true full name.
  - (4) The applicant's California driver license number.
  - (5) The applicant's mailing address.
  - (6) The vehicle identification number of the vehicle to which the YOM license plates will be affixed.
    - (A) If the YOM license plate is requested for a motorcycle, the engine number is required.
  - (7) The make of the vehicle.
  - (8) The year of the vehicle.
  - (9) A statement signed under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information entered on the application is true and correct.

- (10) The applicant's telephone number.
- (b) The application shall be accompanied by the fee specified in Vehicle Code section 5004.1 and is in addition to regular registration fees.
- (c) The current registration certificate, if the vehicle is currently registered.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Sections 1652 and 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.04. Year of Manufacture License Plates for Vehicles With Model Years prior to 1963.**

- (a) Base year license plate must have the appropriate year validation sticker or tab attached to the plate to be authenticated as other than the base year. For example, a 1956 license plate with a 1958 sticker validates a 1958 license plate.
  - (1) Vehicles with year model 1942 and prior, 1947 and 1956 will not require the sticker or tab as those were the base plate years.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.06. Year of Manufacture License Plates for Vehicles with Model Years 1963 through 1972.**

- (a) Automobiles with model years from 1963 through 1969 must utilize license plates displaying a black background with yellow characters within the alpha-numeric series of AAA000 through YYY999.
- (b) Year model 1963 through 1969 commercial vehicles or pickups must utilize license plates displaying a black background with yellow characters within the alpha-numeric series of A00000 – Z99999.
- (c) Year model 1970 through 1972 commercial vehicle or pickups must utilize license plates displaying a blue background with yellow characters within the alpha-numeric series of 00000A – 99999Z.
- (d) License plates for model years 1963 and after must be compatible with the type of vehicle to which it is being registered.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.08. Eligibility.**

- (a) YOM license plates must be supplied by the vehicle owner and authenticated by DMV personnel.
- (b) YOM applicant is responsible for proving that the year model of the vehicle described in the application is correct.
- (c) The license plates must appear to be original by displaying legible and unaltered characters, and be in a configuration authorized for the year entered on the application.

- (d) Special Construction Vehicles, commonly referred to as Kit Cars, do not qualify for YOM license plates.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.10. Surrender of Current License Plates.**

- (a) The current license plates shall be surrendered to the department at the time of application.
- (b) If the current license plates are not available, the applicant shall complete a Statement of Facts, Form REG 256 (Rev. 8/2008), which is hereby incorporated by reference, stating that he or she understands the current license plates are no longer valid and the applicant will destroy the license plates if, at any time, they are discovered.
- (1) The license plates shall be considered destroyed when they are mutilated in a manner which renders them useless.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.12. Transferring Vehicles Displaying Year of Manufacture License Plates.**

- (a) YOM plates may be transferred between vehicles only when the year models are the same and upon application as provided in Section 205.02 of this Article.
- (b) YOM plates may remain on the vehicle when ownership is transferred when the following occur:
- (1) The seller must complete a Year of Manufacture (YOM) License Plate Application, Form REG 352 (Rev. 2/2009), indicating that he or she is releasing interest in the vehicle.
- (2) The purchaser must complete a Year of Manufacture (YOM) License Plate Application, Form REG 352 (Rev. 2/2009), as required by Section 205.02 of this Article.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.

**§205.14. Retention of Year of Manufacture License Plates.**

- (a) YOM license plates may be retained when the registration is not renewed if the plate owner pays the annual retention fee due by the registration expiration date for the vehicle last assigned the plates.
- (1) The plate owner must complete a Year of Manufacture (YOM) License Plate Application, Form REG 352 (Rev. 2/2009), and mark the 'Retention' option at the top of the form.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 1651, Vehicle Code. Reference: Section 5004.1, Vehicle Code.